

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
HISASHI ISHIKAWA ) : Examiner: Q. Vo  
Application No.: 10/611,948 ) : Group Art Unit: 2625  
Filed: July 3, 2003 ) : Confirmation No. 5415  
For: A METHOD AND )  
APPARATUS FOR IMAGE ) :  
PROCESSING ) February 24, 2009

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) having been filed concurrently herewith, and in response to the Office Action dated November 25, 2008, please amend the above-identified application as follows: